

# The Past, Present Status, and Future Direction of SJVDIP



In Chapter 2, we reported on the past activities of SJVDIP. In December 1996, the Management Group decided not to adopt its draft revised MOU and not to proceed with planning for a long-term, out-of-valley solution. Instead, MG decided to retain the 1991 MOU and conceptually approved a local initiative developed by local districts, growers, the University of California, and DFA. On March 24, 1997, MG formally adopted the local initiative as the Activity Plan. The objective of the new Activity Plan is for local subareas to evaluate present drainage conditions, assess the progress and constraints of implementing the 1990 *Plan*, and evaluate actions undertaken but not previously addressed in the 1990 *Plan*. Furthermore, technical committees comprised of all stakeholders will conduct a technical and economic evaluation of the 1990 *Plan* recommendations in light of new research and pilot projects and identify current options, possible tradeoffs, and areas needing further study.

The local initiative will fulfill the existing MG commitment to evaluate the 1990 *Plan* recommendations, with input from local subareas, and the ongoing contributions of growers, researchers, government staff, environmentalists, and other stakeholders. The local initiative intends to remove constraints to implementing 1990 *Plan* recommendations, while updating the recommendations with new information. The Activity Plan will foster cooperation among agencies, researchers, local districts, and growers to solve drainage, trace element, and salt management problems, with the goal of achieving agricultural and environmental sustainability in the Valley. Implementation of the Activity Plan is proceeding. The Activity plan will produce a report to MG in March 1999.